

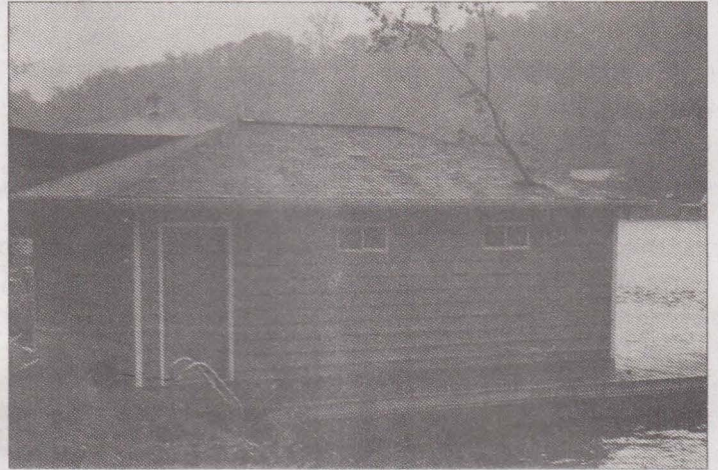
The News L



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STRONG STORMS RIPPED THROUGH THE AREA ON SUNDAY



By Tricia Taber

The Greenville County Emergency Management Division (GCEMD) led by Captain Damon Hubber and Sgt. Jay Marett of the Greenville County Sheriff's office along with Kevin King of the Greenville County Special Operations Force assembled at the Landrum Area Fire and Rescue District headquarters on Monday morning. The team met in order to prepare to do damage assessment in the aftermath of strong storms that made their way through the Upstate of South Carolina and across the North Carolina state line on Sunday evening at approximately 5:45pm. Storms brought high winds and torrential rains to the Lake Lanier (SC) area causing damage to trees, power lines, and homes.

Kevin King discussed with the team about the damage he assessed on Sunday night, "There were lines down, heavy debris, and rooftops laying in the roadway. The sooner we can get out there to let people know we are here to help, the better they will feel." Large trees and downed power lines made the roads impassable. King stressed the importance of safety as he informed the team of many trees that were splintered off and resting on the tops of other branches thus causing a potential threat of falling if any winds came through the area during clean-up efforts. A large part of the area with storm damage was in the Greenville County portion of Lake Lanier also known as the Third Basin of the lake. Duke Energy linemen were in the area in order to switch all power off due to live wires on the ground and in the roadway.

emergency management partners of the Greenville County Emergency Response Team. Responders were stationed at Pennell and Dug Hill Road in Lake Lanier (SC) where they were distributing water, snacks, and relief supplies to impacted families. In the coming days, trained caseworkers will meet with impacted families to assist in starting their recovery plan. Landrum Area Fire and Rescue District Chief Warren Ashmore stated, "We will do whatever is necessary to help. Our department personnel is working diligently in aiding in infrastructure clean-up efforts. Saw teams have been assembled and are currently working throughout the area to clear roads made impassable due to the storm."

Due to extensive storm damage LAF&RD assisted the town of Tryon and the Foothills Fire District.

Thank you to Bojangles and Pizza Hut of Landrum for supplying food for the emergency crews!

